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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SETTLEMENT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE JUDGE BROOKS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

FALLBROOK PUBLIC UTILITY
DISTRICT, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 51-1247-SD-GT

**JOINT SETTLEMENT STATUS REPORT
SUBMITTED BY PECHANGA BAND OF
LUISEÑO MISSION INDIANS, RANCHO
CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT, AND
THE UNITED STATES**

Hon. Gonzalo P. Curiel

The Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians (“Pechanga”), Rancho California Water District (“RCWD”) and the United States (collectively the “Submitting Parties”) hereby respectfully submit this joint settlement status report to update the Court on the status of their settlement negotiations and progress toward achieving a final settlement.

I. Status of Settlement

1 Since 2008, the Submitting Parties have been pursuing settlement of Pechanga's water
2 rights claims in the underlying litigation. The Submitting Parties have met for numerous
3 settlement negotiations since the Submitting Parties last filed a status report with the Court.
4 Those meetings have resulted in substantial progress toward achieving a final settlement. A bill
5 to ratify a proposed settlement was introduced in the 114th Congress in the Senate (S. 1983) and
6 was reported favorably out of the Senate Committee Indian Affairs without amendment on
7 February 3, 2016.¹ A hearing on the proposed settlement is now scheduled before the House
8 Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans for June 23, 2016.
9

10 As part of the Congressional process for approval, on May 17, 2016 the United States,
11 acting through the Department of Interior and Department of Justice transmitted a letter to the
12 United States House Natural Resources Committee, a copy of which is attached. We have also
13 attached a copy of the proposed Settlement Agreement and ratifying legislation that was
14 submitted to the House Subcommittee as the basis for their hearing.
15

16 The Submitting Parties will provide additional settlement status updates as the
17 congressional process continues and notify the Court upon enactment of the Act and the signing
18 of the Settlement Agreement.
19

20 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
21

22 Dated: June 16, 2016

Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians

23 By: s/ Steve Bodmer

24 Steve Bodmer
25
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27 ¹ A copy of the agreed upon and pending legislation is attached as an exhibit to this Joint Status Report.
28

Rancho California Water District

By: s/ James B. Gilpin

James B. Gilpin

United States of America

By: s/ Patrick Barry

Patrick Barry